

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01248 110934Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----079588 111002Z /23

O P 110745Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8128
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 2002
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1248

EXDIS

USUN FOR AM YOUNG

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SOVIET NEWS

FRENCH EMBASSY HAS SHARED WITH US A REPORTING TELEGRAM
PREPARED BY AMBASSADOR FRANCAIS ON HIS CONVERSATION OF APRIL 7
WITH AMBASSADOR SOLODOVNIKOV ON NAMIBIA. SOLODOVNIKOV, ACCORDING
TO AMBASSADOR FRANCAIS, HAS SHOWN AN ACUTE INTEREST IN THE
PROPOSALS, BRINGING THE SUBJECT UP FREQUENTLY AND ASKING THAT HE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01248 110934Z

BE PROVIDED WITH A COPY. AMBASSADOR FRANCAIS' REPORT REVEALS SOME
OF THE SOVIET DOUBTS ABOUT THE PROPOSALS AND SUGGESTS POSSIBLE
SOVIET TACTICS IN ARGUING AGAINST THEM. AMBASSADOR FRANCAIS'
TELEGRAM WAS CLASSIFIED "CONFIDENTIAL LIMITED DISTRIBUTION."
HE SHOULD BE PROTECTED. EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF HIS TELEGRAM
FOLLOWS.

QUOTE:

THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR ASKED TO SEE ME URGENTLY THIS MORNING. HE HAD THE TEXT OF OUR PROPOSALS WHICH HAD BEEN SENT TO HIM BY THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS. HE ASKED ME THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSALS WHICH APPEAR TO BE POINTS THE SOVIET UNION PROPOSES TO USE IN ITS COUNTER ATTACK. THE ESSENTIAL THEME IS THAT SWAPO HAS NO REAL GUARANTEE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS WILL NOT USE THE PROPOSED PROCESS TO PUT IN PLACE THEIR STRAW MEN AND IN SO DOING TRANSFORM THE TERRITORY INTO A BANTUSTAN.

IN FACT:

(A) THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT HAVE EXECUTIVE POWER OVER RESIDUAL SOUTH AFRICANS (TROOPS, POLICE AND JUSTICE).

(B) THE NUMBER OF THE UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE HAS NOT BEEN FIXED.

(C) ITS PERSONNEL: WILL THEY GO SO FAR AS TO OPEN FIRE IF THE SOUTH AFRICANS DO NOT PLAY ACCEORDING TO THE RULES? IF SO, WHO WILL GIVE THE ORDER TO FIRE?

(D) THE MAINTENANCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN THE NORTH OF THE TERRITORY RAISES OVERWHELMING OBJECTIONS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 01248 110934Z

(E) THE NUMBER OF SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY IN WALVIS BAY IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE NUMBER OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WHO WILL REMAIN. THEY WILL ESCAPE THE SURVEILLANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

TOUCHING ON GUARANTEES OF INTEREST TO SWAPO ITSELF, MY SOVIET COLLEAGUE POSED THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

(A) HOW WILL LIBERTY OF SPEECH, ASSEMBLY, AND PRESS BE ASSURED?

(B) WHO WILL FINANCE THE RETURN OF THE REFUGEES AND WHO WILL PAY THEIR DAILY ALLOWANCES?

(C) WHAT WILL BE THE STATUS OF THE SWAPO GUERRILLAS: WILL THEY BE DISARMED EITHER AT THEIR REENTRY INTO NAMIBIA OR IN THE ZONES ALREADY LIBERATED WHICH THEY OCCUPY? WHAT WILL BE THE STATUS OF THEIR BASES IN ANGOLA AND IN ZAMBIA?

MR. SOLODOVNIKOV INQUIRED FINALLY IF THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL BE OFFICIALLY SEIZED OF OUR PROPOSITIONS BEFORE THE DEBATE ON NAMIBIA. HE FURTHER ASKED IF SWAPO HAD ALREADY REACTED AND IF OUR PROPOSITIONS WERE OUR LAST WORD OR IF THEY WERE STILL SUBJECT

TO NEGOTIATIONS.

IN CONCLUSION MY INTERLOCUTOR HAD EXPRESSED DOUBTS ON THE SINCERITY OF THE FIVE WHO WERE ATTEMPTING TO CHASE TWO RABBITS AT THE SAME TIME BY PRESERVING THEIR INTERESTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ATTEMPTING TO PUT IN PLACE BLACK GOVERNMENTS IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. THEIR SINCERITY WOULD BE A FUNCTION OF THE MEASURES WHICH WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST PRETORIA IF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT REJECTED THE PROPOSALS. WHAT PRECISELY WAS THEIR POSITION ON THIS POINT?

FINALLY HE HAD NOTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD STILL PREFER A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO ALL OTHERS IF SUCH A SOLUTION WERE CONVINCING.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LUSAKA 01248 110934Z

I CONFINED MYSELF TO RESPONDING BY GENERALITIES, TOUCHING ON THE PHILOSOPHY OF OUR PROPOSITIONS, ADDING THAT RESPONSES TO HIS QUESTIONS MUST BE TAKEN UP BY THE FIVE IN NEW YORK.

MR. SOLODOVNIKOV DID NOT HIDE FROM ME THAT HIS QUESTIONS WERE ASKED DUE TO THE APPROACHING VISIT OF MR. NUJOMA TO MOSCOW. IT WAS CLEAR FROM HIS QUESTIONS THAT SWAPO HAD NOT MADE CONTACT WITH HIM SINCE THE PROPOSALS WERE PRESENTED TO SWAPO.

AS FAR AS WALVIS BAY IS CONCERNED, HE WAS APPARENTLY UNAWARE OF THE PROPOSED DECLARATION OF THE FIVE. HE NOTED THAT THE FIVE CONSIDERED THAT THE DESTINY OF THE ENCLAVE SHOULD NOT BE THE OBJECT OF DISCUSSION AT THE PRESENT TIME. RATHER, IT SHOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSIONS BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE FUTURE NAMIBIAN GOVERNMENT.

END QUOTE. CLINGERMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION EXCHANGE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LUSAKA01248
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780155-0462
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780471/aaaachzk.tel
Line Count: 154
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 86a1f0b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3011447
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: SOVIET NEWS FRENCH EMBASSY HAS SHARED WITH US A REPORTING TELEGRAM PREPARED BY AMBASSADOR FRANCAIS ON HIS CONVERSATIO
TAGS: PORG, PDEV, SF, WA, UR
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/86a1f0b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014